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BOOK REVIEWS.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF FIRE INSURANCE. By D. OSTRANDER. Second Edition; revised and enlarged. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1897.

In this treatise the contract of fire insurance and its incidents are thoroughly considered, and presented in conjunction with references to the American cases. To the first edition of five years since, five chapters and a thousand new cases have been added, which increases the volume to one of about eight hundred and fifty pages. The names and citations of the cases are now given at the bottoms of the pages, and lengthy extracts from judicial opinions are occasionally to be found in foot-notes.

The new chapters are entitled Fixtures, Location of Risk, Increase of Hazard, Concerning Liability of Water Supply Companies, and Bailment and Carrier. The chapters treating the important subjects of Subrogation, Warranties and Representations, and Waiver and Estoppel appear to be unusually well given.

The method which has been pursued of giving the law as extracted from cases with general discussion, and the addition of a section at the end of each chapter embodying the conclusions of law makes this a good text book for the student as well as an excellent working one for the lawyer.

D. P. H.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CODE PLEADING. By CHARLES M. HEPBURN, of the Cincinnati Bar. Cincinnati: W. H. Anderson & Co. 1897.

The urgent, long-felt need of a simple, expeditious and practical system of pleading, led the legislature of New York, in 1848, to pass a "Code of Procedure," with the object of establishing a single form of action for the enforcement or protection of private rights whether legal or equitable. The further purposes of the Act were, the substitution of concise statements (of the decisive facts of a cause) for the technical and multifarious pleadings of the former system, and the granting of authority to the court for bringing in all parties necessary to the determination of the proceeding.

Since that time England, a number of the British Colonies, and twenty-six of the states of the Union, have taken similar measures to procure like results. Other states have been contented with a modification of the Common Law system; but in all jurisdictions attempts have been made to do away with what are generally considered the objectionable features of pleadings at the Common Law.